Nev	v York African Burial Ground Archaeology Final Report February 2006
BURIALS 251 THROUGH 300	
BURIALS 251 THRO	U GH 300

Series 15A Catalog # 1240 Datum Point: 82

Grid coordinates: S79.5/E79 Elevation of cranium: 3.73' asl Temporal Group: Late Middle

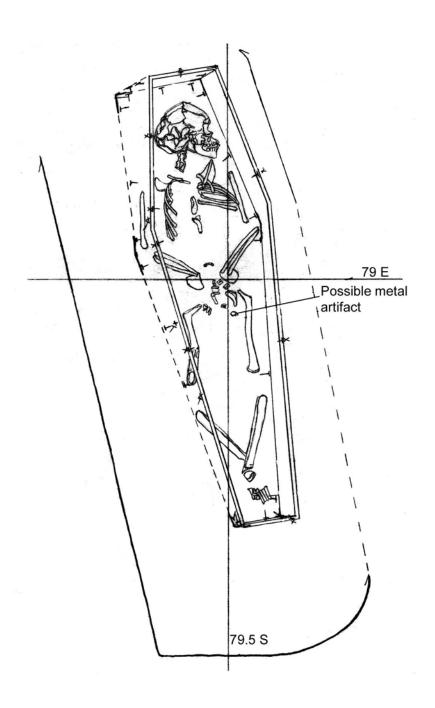
Burial 251 yielded the remains of an adolescent between 12 and 14 years of age. The associated soil was described as soft mottled clay. The western and northern edges of the grave shaft outline were obscure. Several kiln spacers and sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware were found in the grave fill above the coffin, as was a fragment of glazed brick. Field notes mention faunal remains from the shaft fill, but none were present in the lab.

The coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 4.23', based on a nail found in the northwest corner, and the bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.51' based on nails found along the eastern footboard. It was hexagonal in shape, and the deceased had been placed with the head to the west, in supine position with the hands crossed over the pelvis and the feet crossed at the ankles.

The remains were in poor condition, with the cranium shattered on the right side and the upper face depressed. Excavators noted that the teeth appeared to be encased in a bony substance. Both femora had complete fractures midshaft and the ends of all the longbones were eroded.

A small "paisley-shaped," metallic artifact was found next to the inside of the left femur. This item was given a field artifact number (251.1) and removed, but was never logged in by laboratory staff.

The Burial 251 grave was stratigraphically associated with a number of others. It overlay the eastern portion of Burial 279, which was approximately half a foot lower in elevation. The grave shaft of Burial 251 cut into the northwest corner of Burial 250, and it also appeared to have overlain the southern edge of the grave shaft of Burial 256, which had in turn cut into Burial 281. The northeast corner of the Burial 251 grave shaft overlay the southwest corner of Burial 227. The grave shaft of Burial 211 may have overlain that of Burial 251, but the former was excavated one month prior to the latter and records do not mention the stratigraphic relationship. Burials 279, 250, and 281 are all Early Group graves, while Burials 227 and 256 have been assigned to the Middle Group, Burial 251 to the Late Middle Group, and Burial 211 to the Late Group.





Catalog # 1241 Datum Point: 52A

Grid coordinates: S64.5/E95.5 Elevation of cranium: 1.30' asl

Temporal Group: Late

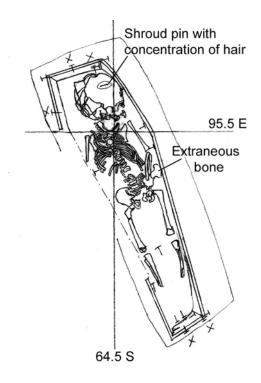
Burial 252 yielded the remains of a young child between 1 and 2 years old. The grave was located in the rear part of Lot 15, and the south side of the shaft had been disturbed by Feature 77, a wood-lined privy from the later development of the lot. The grave shaft fill consisted of yellow-grey clay mottled with a small amount of coarse red sand.

The child's coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 1.54', beneath Burial 225, and the coffin bottom lay at 0.96'. The south edge of the coffin lid had been disturbed by Feature 77, but at the bottom the edge was visible. Disturbance to the skeletal remains was minimal. The coffin was hexagonal in shape, and remains of a small metal plate and a metal disc, possibly part of the plate, were recorded on its lid. The plate was not present in the laboratory when Howard University inventoried the burial. The disc was inventoried, but was not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. One possible tack and several nails were recorded roughly aligned lengthwise down the center of the lid. Nails were also recorded *in situ* around the perimeter of the coffin, at top and bottom. An extraneous radius (not from either Burial 252 or 225) was found just above the coffin lid.

The child had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west, hands resting over his or her pelvis. The skeletal remains were in fair to poor condition, with the right arm and distal ends of the long bones missing. The burial was exposed to seeping water during excavation, and the remains were soft and wet by the time they were removed from the ground.

A bone disc with a vertically oriented straight pin beneath it was recorded *in situ* on the neck. These items apparently went missing and were never cataloged by conservation staff in the laboratory. Pins were also recorded on the frontal bone of the cranium (with a concentration of hair associated), over the left ear, and under the left mandible, and copper stains were noted on the sacrum and the left phalange. Field notes refer to an impression of cloth over the left orbit, but the conservation staff did not analyze this. It is likely this infant was wrapped in a winding cloth that was pinned in several places.

Burial 252 lay immediately beneath Burial 225, another very young child, whose grave was offset slightly to the north but in an apparent shared grave. Because these burials lay north of the former fence line, both have been designated Late Group.





Series 15A Catalog # 1242 Datum Point: 73

Grid coordinates: S82.5/E65.5 Elevation of cranium: 4.02' asl Temporal Group: Late Middle

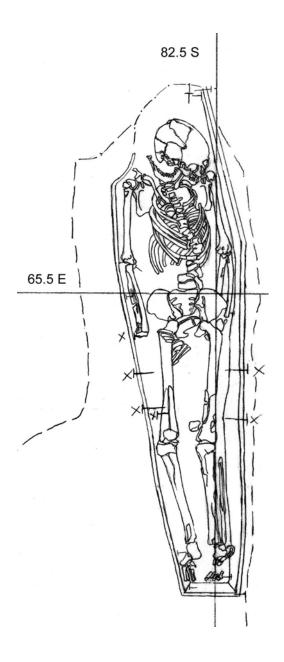
Burial 253 yielded the remains of an individual between 13 and 15 years of age, whose sex could not be determined. The associated soil was described as grey sandy clay mottled with tan silt and red sand. One sherd of glass and numerous cow and unidentified mammal bone fragments were recovered from the fill. The grave shaft appeared to be disturbed along the western edge and was obscured along the eastern end, where Burial 239 and Burial 246 had been removed previously.

The hexagonal coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 4.24' and was well preserved. Vertical nails recorded *in situ* around the perimeter appear to have attached the lid to the sides. Only the southwest corner appeared to have been disturbed, possibly by a brick drain (Feature 112/182) located south of the burial. The bottom of the coffin was reached at an elevation of 3.21'. Excavators noted that the coffin slumped downward from west to east, probably due to underlying Burial 295 on the east.

The deceased was interred in supine position, with the head to the west and arms resting at the sides. The remains were in fair condition. The skull was disturbed, with the zygomatic and frontal bone pushed to the north, off of the mandible. The coffin lid rested directly on top of the skeletal remains, with very little soil inside the coffin. A straight pin was recorded *in situ* on the right ribs.

Burial 253 overlay the western end of Burial 295, the grave of a woman between 30 and 50. Since Burial 295 disturbed Burial 280, Burial 253 also must post-date Burial 280. To the west, the southern edge of the grave shaft for Burial 195 appears to have overlain the northwest part of Burial 253. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 253 has been assigned to the Late Middle Group.

► North





Series 22 Catalog # 1243 Datum Point: 79

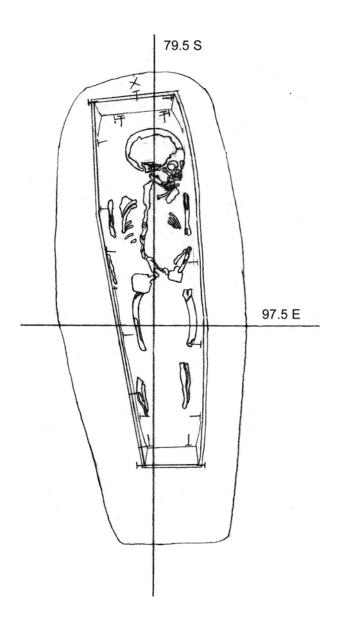
Grid coordinates: S79.5/E97.5 Elevation of cranium: 2.08' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 254 was of a child between 3 ½ and 5 ½ years old. The grave shaft fill consisted of predominantly yellow/orange mixed silts mottled with red sand lenses with pebbles and small cobbles, and its outline was apparent on all sides. A wooden stake was found within the eastern portion of the grave cut at an elevation of 2.85°; the stake was recorded during excavation of Burial 240, and was apparently not taken to the laboratory after its removal.

The child's coffin lid was first exposed at elevations of 2.45' in the west and 3.10' in the east, the bottom at 1.50'. Its shape could not be determined with certainty. The body was laid out in supine position, head to the west, with the left hand on the pelvis and the right hand at the side. The skeletal remains were incomplete and in poor condition, with extant bones crushed and severely eroded, cranium fractured, and the maxillary teeth scattered.

A silver pendant was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the skeletal remains. It was found near the child's mandible and may have been worn as an earring or strung around the neck. The piece (Catalog # 1243-B.001) was of cast silver, with a hoop attached to a sphere, from which hung a teardrop-shaped ornament. A tiny fiber was found near the piece, possibly indicating a cord for the pendant, clothing, or a winding sheet. No other artifacts were found in association with this child.

Burial 240, a Middle group child's grave, directly overlay Burial 254, and the two were aligned similarly. Burial 240 had a distinct grave shaft outline of its own, so it was clearly a later interment, though it may have been deliberately placed with reference to Burial 254. Burial 207, of an adult, overlay the north edge of both. Based on stratigraphic position, and absent evidence that might date it more precisely, Burial 245 has been designated a Middle Group burial.





Series 25B Catalog # 1244 and 2147

Datum Point: 83

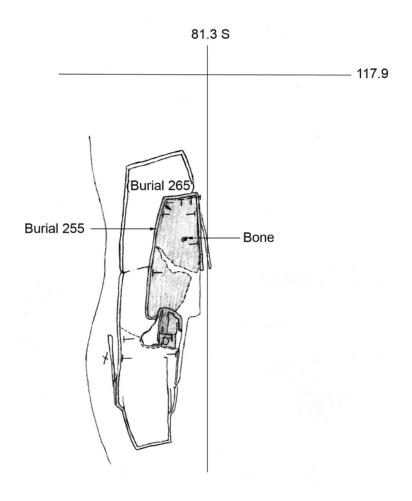
Grid coordinates: 79.3/E117.9 Elevation of cranium: 1.81' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 255 consisted only of coffin remains, cranial fragments, and teeth from an infant less than 3 months old. The coffin had been placed directly on top of the Burial 265 coffin, in the same grave shaft. The grave cut outline was visible only on the south side. The shaft fill was grey-brown sandy silt mottled with yellow fine silt. The grave had been disturbed, possibly by machine action, and the eastern end had been shifted southward approximately 0.2'.

The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 2.17' based on coffin nails found along the west edge, and the bottom was at 1.73'. The eastern section of the coffin had been displaced to the south, but the shape appears to have been hexagonal. Tooth fragments were found in the western portion of the burial, indicating that the child was buried with the head to the west.

An unidentified metal object was recorded on the coffin lid but was never logged by project conservation staff in the laboratory. One possible straight pin was found *in situ* near the cranium but was not recovered. Additional coffin nails were found in the area between Burial 255 and Burial 265; these nails were given a separate catalog number (2147) in the lab, because it was unclear which burial they belonged to.

Burial 265, the grave of a child between 6 months and 1 year of age, and Burial 255 appear to have been a co-interment. Both burials have been assigned to the default Middle Group.





Series 15A Catalog # 1245 Datum Point: 82

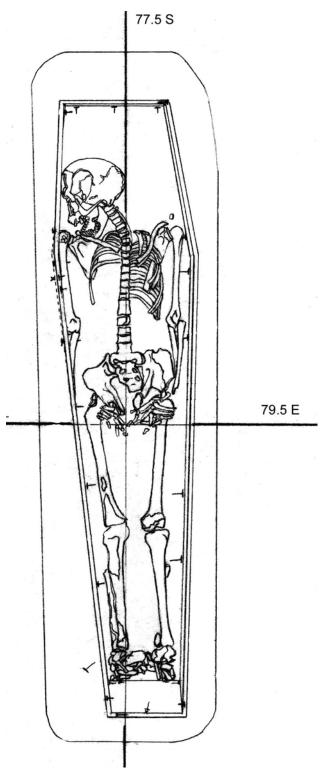
Grid coordinates: S77.5/E79.5 Elevation of cranium: 2.82' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 256 was of a man between 40 and 60 years of age. The western third of the burial lay in orange sandy soil that resembled subsoil. The eastern two-thirds lay in soft clayey silt, which may be a natural soil matrix redeposited as shaft fill.

The man's coffin lid was well preserved but had collapsed over the eastern half of the skeletal remains. It was recorded at an elevation of 3.17' at the west end, 2.72' at the center, and 2.10' at the east end. A left humerus, radius, and femur were recovered in the shaft fill over the west end of the coffin lid; these probably belong to Burial 281, which lay below and had been truncated by Burial 256. The bottom of the coffin was not mentioned in field records, but the lowest elevation recorded was 2.38'. Coffin nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter at both top and bottom.

The coffin was hexagonal in shape, and the man had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west and hands over the pelvis. The remains were in very fragile condition. A circular copper stain was observed on the 6th vertebra, but was not recoverable.

Burial 256 truncated Burial 281. Burial 251 overlay the south side of the Burial 256 grave shaft by 0.14', and Burial 211, a grave of another probable man, lay above Burial 256. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 256 has been designated a Middle Group burial.





Series 34 Catalog # 1246 Datum Point: 81

Grid coordinates: S72/E64.5 Elevation of cranium: 3.21' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 257 was of a man between 30 and 40 years of age, whose grave was located along the fence-post line that crosses the cemetery and marks its presumed onetime northern extent. This interment apparently disturbed an underlying burial, Burial 175 (the remains of a man in his mid-20s), and the man's bones were redeposited above the Burial 257 coffin. It is also possible that Burial 175 represents a deliberate secondary burial, in which case the deceased may have had some relation ship to the man in Burial 275.

The grave shaft outline was rectangular on the west and north sides, the south side irregular and the east end tapered to a point. Its fill soil was described as mottled yellowish and bluish clay. Grave fill artifacts collected from Burial 257 consisted of four large unidentified mammal bones and one cow bone. However, numerous other items were recovered during excavation of Burial 175 that were actually from the Burial 257 grave shaft. These included clay pipe stems, four pearlware sherds (providing a *terminus post quem* of circa 1780), one redware sherd, ten nail fragments, four oyster shell fragments, and one cow bone.

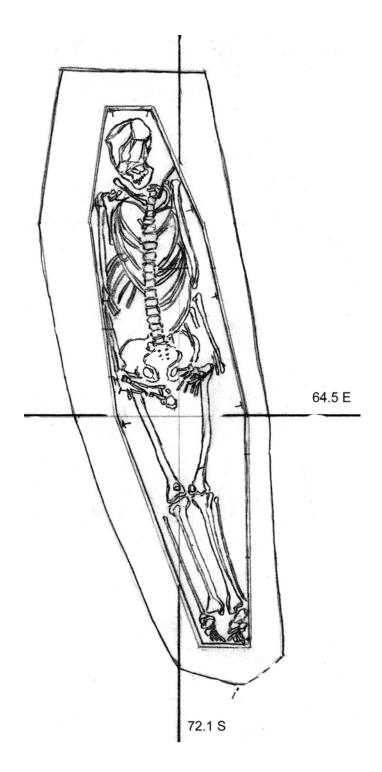
The elevation of the coffin lid was recorded at 3.3' in the southeast, 3.24' in the north, the bottom at 2.85'. The coffin shape could not be determined with certainty. Based on the tapered head and foot ends, it could have been hexagonal or possibly octagonal. Nails were recorded *in situ* at the perimeter of the coffin bottom. The excavators noted that two nails found underneath Burial 257 may have belonged to an original coffin from Burial 175, but these nails were not catalogued in the laboratory separately from Burial 257's nails. While the excavator took down the coffin walls on all sides, one nail was found 6" west of the western coffin line. Another nail was found about 4-6" south of the southern part of the coffin wall. The excavator indicated that there appeared to be a coffin line in association with this nail. Fragments of a long bone and a possible hand bone were also found underneath the burial; these may have been from Burial 175.

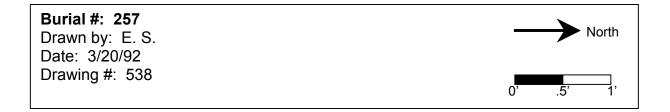


The man was buried in supine position with his hands on his pelvis and his head to the west. The skeletal remains were in fair to poor condition. The burial was frequently flooded and silted over during excavation, requiring reexcavation. Two buttons were recovered during grave fill screening, including one that was originally found in the sacrum area. A third button was recovered during laboratory cleaning

of the left acetabulum. The three buttons (possibly button backs) were of bone, 12 to 13 mm in diameter. Three straight pins were recorded *in situ*, two on the chest area and one next to the left side of the skull.

Burials 257 and 175 were along the alignment of fence post holes that crossed the cemetery. One post hole (Feature 67) was directly west of the burials; another (Feature 105) abutted them on the southeast and may have been cut into by one or both of the burials. Dating Burial 175 was problematic, as the artifacts in the shaft fill did not provide a TPQ for this grave; it was designated Middle Group in the absence of clear evidence to place it earlier or later. Burial 257 apparently post-dated the fence, and the associated grave fill artifacts corroborated this chronology: thus Burial 257 has been assigned to the Late Group.





Series 11B Catalog # 1247 Datum Point: 74

Grid coordinates: S85.5/E78

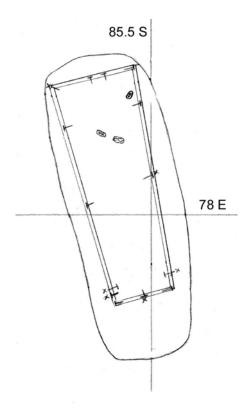
Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.21' asl

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 258 was of an infant less than 6 months old, comprising only deteriorated pockets of bone and a single tooth. The grave shaft fill was dark yellow-brown clay mottled with grey, evident as an oblong stain in grey clay to the north and west and sterile red sand to the east. No artifacts were recovered from the grave fill. The southern edge of the grave shaft had been previously excavated during the removal of Burial 198.

After delineating the grave (at an elevation of 4.4'), excavators scraped down approximately one foot to reach the coffin lid at an elevation of 3.62'. The bottom was at 3.05'. Nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter, including vertical nails attaching both the lid and bottom boards to the sides. Their locations provide the best evidence for the coffin's shape, four-sided and tapering slightly toward the foot. Based on the location of the tooth, the child had been laid with the head to the west. No artifacts were recovered from within the coffin.

Burial 198 lay just to the south of Burial 258, at a lower elevation. Based on field drawings, it appeared that the grave shaft for Burial 198 cut into the upper part of the grave shaft for Burial 258. This indicates that Burial 258 was an earlier burial. It may have been contemporary with Burial 126/143, the grave of two children interred in the same coffin, or with Burial 261, a grave identified only by a coffin fragment, that was truncated by Burial 198. Burial 258 was oriented similarly to all three of these nearby burials. Based on the stratigraphic relationships among these burials, and without any definitive evidence to place it otherwise, Burial 258 has been assigned to the Middle temporal group.





Series 46 Catalog # 1249 Datum Point: 66

Grid coordinates: S40.5/E102 Elevation of Cranium: 0.47' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 259 was of a probable woman between 17 and 19 years of age. The grave was located in the northern area of the excavated cemetery, in the central part of Lot 16. The shaft outline was ovoid and obscured on the south side by a later interment (Burial 278). No grave fill artifacts were recorded, but a coin was recovered during excavation. It was not listed in the field records, but conservation staff reported that it was from construction fill. The coin was identified as a George II or III halfpenny. Because it was not directly associated with the remains, it was retained in the collection rather than reburied.

The elevation of the coffin lid was recorded at 0.74', the bottom at 0.06'. The coffin was hexagonal or bowed at the sides, and nails were recorded *in situ* around the top and bottom perimeters. Wood samples from unidentified locations were identified as pine and cedar. The deceased was laid out in supine position, head to the west, with the left arm extended and the right arm crossed over the abdomen with the hand on the left innominate. The skeletal remains were in fair to good condition.

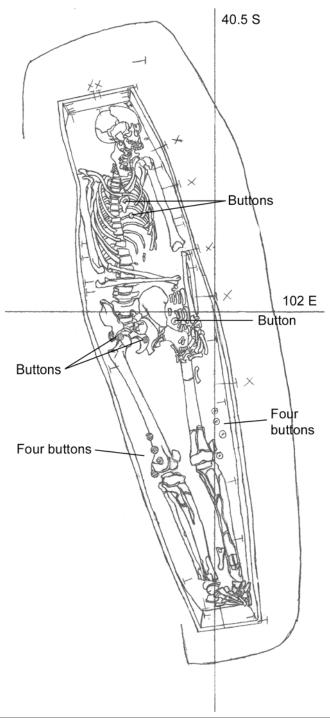
Although the skeletal remains appeared to be female, the deceased had apparently been laid out in men's clothing. Eighteen buttons were recorded *in situ* with the skeletal remains, some whole and others represented only by shanks. Four buttons with a ridged face design were aligned at the end of each femur, just above the knee, and three similar

buttons were found in the pelvic area. They clearly were from breeches. The buttons were of cast copper alloy with tin plating and cone shanks, 18 mm in diameter. Two smooth-faced buttons were found on the ribs, two shanks on the vertebrae, and three shanks on the pelvis. Fabric was associated with both the pelvic-area and knee buttons. Wool was identified in the laboratory with the breeches buttons.



Conservators also identified linen fragments, but did not record which buttons these fragments were associated with. The two buttons on the ribs, possibly with leather covers may have been from a shirt. Several straight pin fragments were also recovered from unrecorded locations.

The south edge of the grave shaft of Burial 259 overlay the northern edge of Burial 278, the grave of a man in his 40s or 50s. Their location north of the fence line places both of these burials in the Late Group.





Series 23a Catalog # 1250 Datum Point: 71

Grid coordinates: 84.5S/53.5E Elevation of highest point: 3.89

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 260 consisted only of disarticulated bones of an individual of undetermined age and sex. The bones were found adjacent to Burial 236, most beneath the fallen south side of the child's coffin. Elevations recorded for the skeletal elements were from 3.89' to 3.68'.

Burial 260 has been assigned by default to the Middle temporal group.

The field drawing did not represent remains *in situ* within in a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

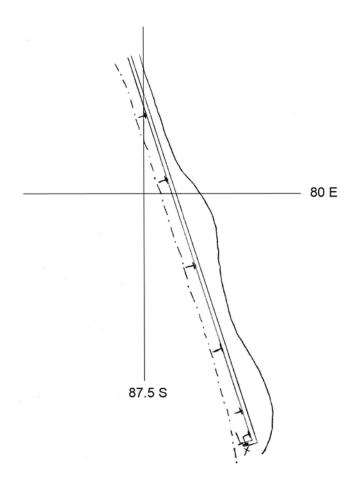


Series 11B Catalog # 1251 Datum Point: 75

Grid coordinates: S87.5/E80 No skeletal remains present Temporal Group: Early

No human remains were found in association with Burial 261, which consisted only of the north side of a coffin. The grave lay beneath Burial 126/143, which had been excavated two months prior to the discovery of Burial 261. Soil in the grave shaft of Burial 261 was described as mottled yellow brown silty clay. The coffin remnant lay immediately beneath Burial 126/143, but was offset slightly to the north, and was not discovered until the balk formed by the northern edge of the Burial 126/143 grave shaft was removed. Backfill had been deposited over the empty grave pit of Burial 126/143, and excavators removed this in order to fully expose the coffin line of Burial 261; however, only the northern coffin wall was preserved. The coffin shape could not be determined, although several coffin nails were found *in situ*. Excavation of Burial 261 ended at an elevation of 3.23'.

Burial 126/143, which held two children interred in the same coffin, truncated the majority of Burial 261. The excavators of Burial 261 believed that all three individuals were interred in the same grave shaft, and in fact the coffins seem to have been oriented exactly parallel to each other. It was evident that Burial 261 pre-dated Burial 126/143, and there appeared to have been no effort to preserve the former when the second burial took place. Burial 198, the grave of a subadult, lay immediately north of Burial 261, apparently overlying its northwest end. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 261 has been assigned to the Early group.





Catalog # 1256 Datum Point: 64

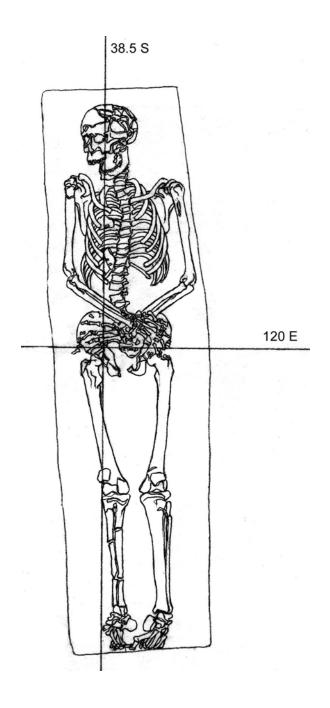
Grid coordinates: S38.5/E120 Elevation of Cranium: -0.31 asl

Temporal Group: Late

An adolescent between 15 and 17 years old identified as a probable male, was laid to rest in Burial 262. The grave was located in the far northern area of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. The deceased had been buried directly in the mottled yellow and bluish clay without a coffin. Some nail fragments were recovered from the grave fill, as were 5 unidentified iron remnants, but no nails were found in a context that would have indicated the presence of a coffin. [No animal bone was cataloged from this grave, despite its location within the animal waste dump area identified in this part of the site. Although it is possible the interment occurred prior to the waste dumping, it is also possible that the material from this grave shaft was mislabeled in the laboratory. It may be included with catalog #1262-UNK, an unknown context associated with Burial 266.]

The deceased had been laid supine with head to the west. The legs were extended and the wrists were crossed, right over left, on the pelvis. Field notes refer to a piece of decorative glass associated with this burial, but was apparently not recovered, as it is not mentioned in laboratory records. No pins were noted with this burial.

This grave did not overlap with any other burials. It was located to the south of Burial 276, the coffinless grave of a woman between 20 and 24 years old, and immediately east of Burial 266, which held a woman between 25 and 35 years. Because of their locations north of the boundary fence, all of these burials, including Burial 262, have been assigned to the Late Group.





Series 11 Catalog # 1257 Datum Point: 74

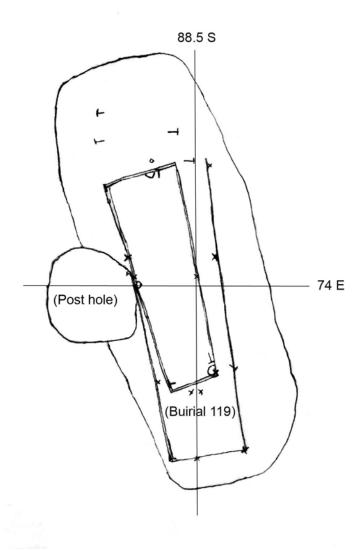
Grid coordinates: S88.5/E74 Elevation of skeletal remains:

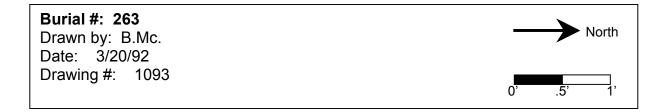
Temporal Group: Early

Burial 263 appeared to be the burial of an infant. The grave shaft consisted of yellow-brown soil mottled with grey. A temporary excavation shelter obscured the southern side of the grave cut and an apparent post hole was also identified along the southern side of the grave shaft.

The coffin outline was identified while excavating Burial 218, a Middle period grave of a very young child, which lay above. One tooth was found at an elevation of 3.30' and recorded as miscellaneous bone associated with the child's burial; however, excavators noted that it might have belonged to another interment in this densely used location. The four-sided coffin lid was identified at an elevation of 3.05', based on heavy dark staining in the soil and a series of nails along the east and north walls. The coffin bottom was identified at an elevation of 2.80'. No skeletal remains were found during excavation other than the tooth noted above, nor were artifacts other than the nails recovered from this burial.

Excavators noted that Burial 263 was within a larger grave, which also held another infant burial (Burial 272) directly below. Burials 218, of another young child, and Burial 119, of a 35 to 45 year old man, were immediately above Burial 263. Based on stratigraphy, Burials 263 and 272 have been assigned to the Early Group.





Series 23B Catalog # 1259 Datum Point: 71

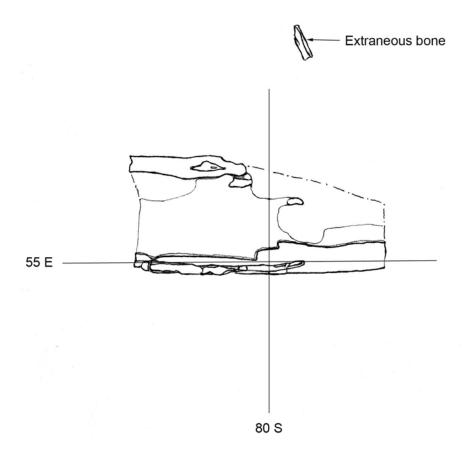
Grid coordinates: 80S/55E Elevation at highest point: 4.07

Temporal Group: Early

Burial 264 consisted of right lower leg bones and part of a coffin bottom preserved *in situ*. The deceased was probably adult, but age and sex could not be determined. The burial was oriented north-south, with the head to the south. Burial 237, which held partial remains of another adult, was immediately adjacent to the east and parallel. It seems likely the two burials represent a single individual.

Burial 212, a child burial, had truncated Burial 264 on the south.

Based on general stratigraphy and preservation, Burial 237/264 is assigned to the Early Group.





Series 25B Catalog # 1261 and 2147 Datum Point: 83

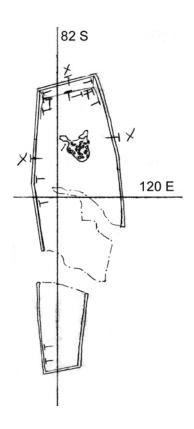
Grid coordinates: S82/E120 Elevation of cranium: 1.74' asl

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 265 contained cranial and tooth fragments of an infant between 6 and 12 months old. The grave shaft outline was visible only on the south side, and fill consisted of greybrown sandy silt mottled with yellow fine silt. The coffin lay directly beneath that of Burial 255, a Middle group infant burial, and shared the same grave shaft. The grave had been disturbed, probably by machine during construction activity in this area, and the eastern end had been shifted southward approximately 0.2'.

The child's coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 2.03' during the excavation of Burial 255, which had collapsed onto it. The lid was broken in two parts, but appeared to be hexagonal in shape. The bottom was at 1.57. A wood sample was identified as cedar. Nails were recorded *in situ*, and additional coffin nails were found in the area between Burial 265 and Burial 255. These nails were given a separate catalog number (# 2147) since it was unclear which burial they belonged to. Based on the position of cranial fragments, the child had been placed with the head to the west. One possible pin was noted near the temporal, but was not recovered.

As stated above, Burial 265 was in the same grave as Burial 255. Because of the backhoe disturbance, their relationship to any burials to the east cannot be reconstructed. Based on the stratigraphic relationships and absent any evidence to place them more precisely, Burials 255 and 265 have been assigned to the Middle Group.





Catalog # 1262

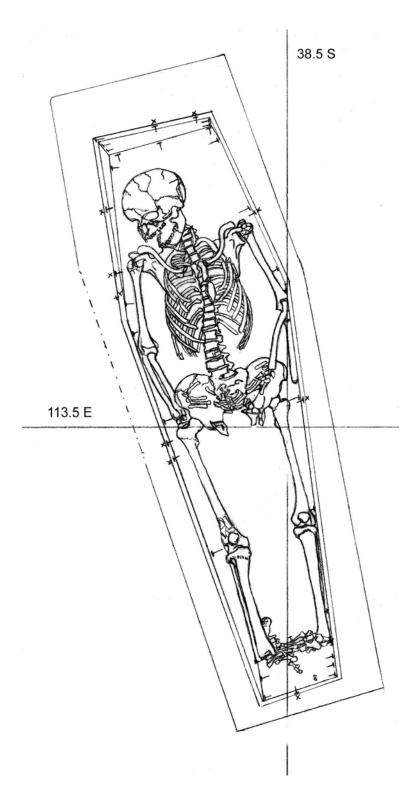
Datum Point: 64A (0.95' asl) Grid coordinates: S38.5/E113.5 Elevation of Cranium: -0.59' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 266 was of a woman between 25 and 35 years. The grave was located in the northern area of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. Its shaft contained a great deal of shell and animal bone, including mussel, clam, oyster and coral fragments, and cow, sheep, turkey, turtle, and unidentified medium to large mammal bones. Nine tobacco pipe stem fragments and a pipe bowl fragment, an English gunflint, a cast copper-alloy buckle (most likely from a shoe), and various fragments of building materials (aqua window glass, brick, mortar, and nails) were also collected. Ceramics in the fill included locally produced salt-glazed stoneware, English white salt-glazed stoneware, Delft, creamware, Nottingham ware, redware, and Staffordshire slipware. This assemblage provides a terminus post quem of circa 1760.

The coffin was hexagonal and nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter. The woman had been laid out supine with arms and legs extended and her hands resting on her pelvis. Skeletal remains were somewhat fragmented, with slight erosion on the ends of the long bones. A single copper-alloy straight pin fragment was noted, but the location was not recorded and the pin apparently could not be recovered. No other artifacts were recovered from within the coffin.

Burial 266 lay at the northern end of a possible north-south row that included Burials 210, 217, 241, 242, and 243, adults of both sexes and various ages. Because it contained creamware in the shaft fill, and lay north of the former boundary fence, Burial 266 was assigned to the Late group.





Series 22 Catalog # 1263 Datum Point: 79

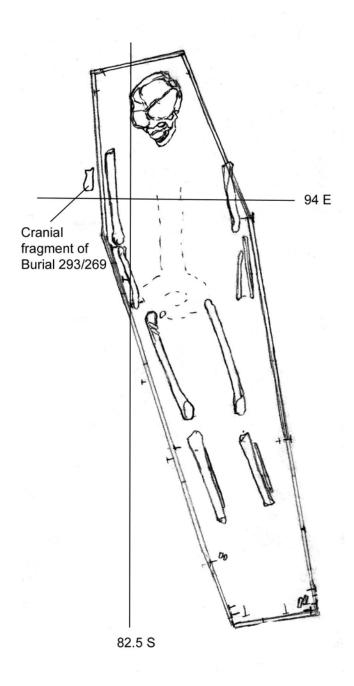
Grid coordinates: S82.5/E94 Elevation of cranium: 4.09' asl Temporal Group: Late Middle

Burial 267 was of an adult of undetermined age and sex. The grave shaft (recorded at an elevation of 4.23' in the west) fill soil consisted of stony, mottled silts with some occasional charcoal flecking and organic stains. The southern grave cut was obscured due to the presence of other burials in this area. The northern grave cut was apparent and partially overlain by Burials 240 and 254, which had been excavated previously. The grave was in an area that had been scraped by machine, and the Burial 267 cranium was found during the shovel cleaning of the area.

The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 4.15' along the south side, sloping downward to an elevation of 3.55' in the southeast corner. The coffin sides were bent outward at the top. The coffin bottom was at 4.00' in the west, sloping down to 3.20' in the east. It was hexagonal in shape.

The deceased had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west, arms at his or her sides. Skeletal remains were in poor condition. The cranium had been crushed and fragmented by the weight of the backhoe, the pelvis and torso were largely absent, and the vertebral column was observed as a stain in the soil, but was irretrievable. Disarticulated human remains were found in the grave fill and were later assigned to Burials 269 and 291.

Burial 267 appeared to excavators to have cut into the south edge of the grave of Burial 254, a child burial. It also cut into the northeast edge of Burial 293. Remains from two other individuals were found in the grave shaft of Burial 267; these were probably from burials that were disturbed during the interment. These remains were assigned to Burials 269 and 291 (an adult and a young child respectively). Burial 269 was subsequently identified as elements belonging to Burial 293. In summary, Burial 267 postdates Burials 254, 269/293, and 291. Based on stratigraphic relationships, Burial 267 has been assigned to the Late Middle group.





Series 28 Catalog # 1264

Datum Point: 54 (3.94° asl) Grid coordinates: S74.5/E125.5

Elevation of highest skeletal element: 0.4' asl

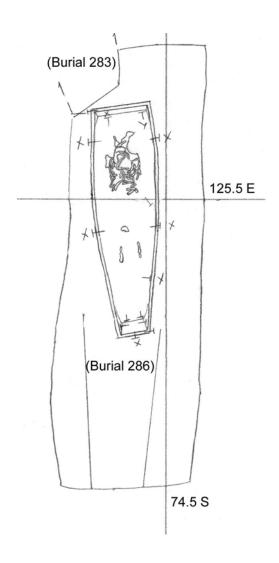
Temporal Group: Middle

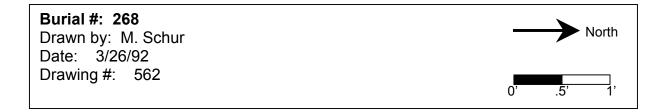
Burial 268 yielded remains of an infant less than 6 months of age. The grave shaft outline was much larger than the coffin, and as excavation proceeded, the outline of an underlying coffin appeared. This held the remains of a child aged about 6 ½ years, dated to the Middle phase, and designated Burial 286. The shaft fill consisted of reddish brown sand mottled with grey-brown clay. Two large-mammal vertebrae, two sherds of grey salt-glazed stoneware, and three kiln spacers were recovered from the soil in Burial 268, and four sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware and a sherd of English refined white salt-glazed stoneware were recovered in the shaft fill surrounding Burial 286. The southwest corner of the Burial 268 grave shaft was cut into by the southeast corner of the coffin of a third burial, Burial 283 (another Middle group infant or very young child).

The Burial 268 coffin was either hexagonal or four-sided and tapered toward the foot. Notes indicate it was hexagonal, but the drawing suggests its sides may have been straight boards that had bowed out slightly as they decayed. It was first revealed at an elevation of 0.8', and its bottom was recorded at 0.22'. Nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter at both top and bottom. A wood sample was identified as pine. The skeletal remains were very poorly preserved, consisting of portions of ribs, cranium, scapulae, two teeth, left femur fragments and the outline of the right femur. The infant had been placed with the head to the west.

Field notes mention some shroud pins in the torso area, some of which were recovered and some left in place. The head of a single pin and one or two additional pin fragments were inventoried in the laboratory.

Burial 268 was directly above and in the same grave as Burial 286. As noted, the coffin of Burial 283 cut into this grave shaft. Burial 306, of a man aged 28 to 44 which was overlain by Burials 283 and 300, lay just to the south of Burials 268 and 286. The relationship between these graves was not clear from the field photographs or drawings, but excavators believed that Burial 306, which was slightly lower in elevation, cut into the grave shaft of Burials 268 and 286. Based on these relationships, and in the absence of evidence to place it earlier or later, Burial 268 has been designated a Middle Group interment.





Series 27 Catalog # 1266 Datum Point: 83 Grid coordinates:

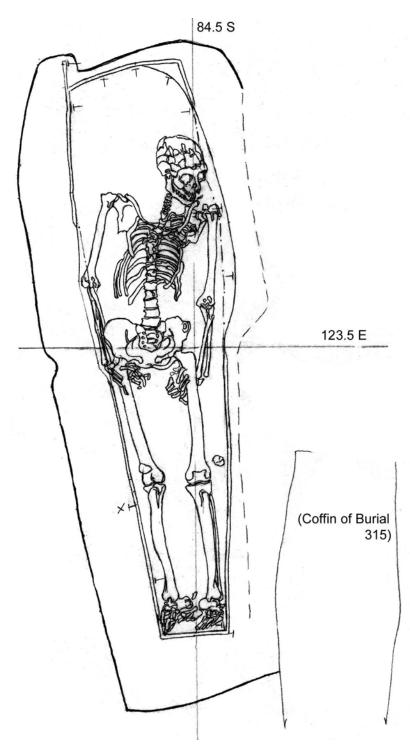
Elevation of cranium: 1.44' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 270 was of a man whose age could not be determined. The grave was located at the far rear of lots 16/17, just to the north of the large 19th-century disturbance associated with # 22 Reade Street. There are no field records of the excavation of the grave shaft, and it is possible the coffin was exposed by machine. Drawings indicate "extraneous" bones were lying atop the coffin lid; these may belong to Burial 359, which had been truncated by Burial 270.

The coffin shape cannot be reconstructed with certainty. It tapered toward the foot, but may have been either four-sided or hexagonal; the draft site map depicted it as hexagonal. The lid was noted at approximately 1.8' asl, and the bottom at 1.10'. Numerous coffin nails were recorded *in situ* around the extant perimeter. Several wood samples were recovered from the coffin, and a lid sample was identified as cedar. No artifacts other than coffin wood and nails were recovered from this burial.

The man had been laid in supine position with his arms at his sides and his hands on his upper thighs. His head was to the west. The skeletal remains were in good condition, although some crushing of the cranium from recent compression was noted.

As noted, Burial 270 truncated the western half of Burial 359, which was discernable only as coffin fragments. Based on field drawings, Burial 315, the grave of a woman in her thirties, appears to have cut into the north edge of the Burial 270 grave shaft; however, upon examination of the burial photographs, this relationship was not clear. The two burials were at approximately the same elevation, and both have been assigned to the default Middle temporal group.





Series 15A Catalog # 1267 Datum Point: 81

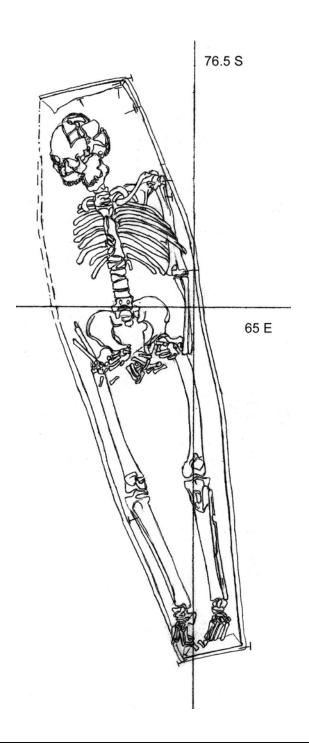
Grid coordinates: S76.5/E65 Elevation of cranium: 3.70' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 271 was of a man between 45 and 57 years of age. Associated soil was described as rocky and mottled. Excavation records mention sherds of delft and salt-glazed stoneware in the grave fill, along with shell, brick, and faunal remains including cow, sheep, and other medium mammal bone fragments. The ceramics from the grave fill may have been mislabeled or lost, as they were never received in the laboratory.

The coffin lid was reached at an elevation of 3.72' in the southwest corner, sloping downward to 3.42' in the center and eastern portions of the lid. The coffin bottom was at 2.94', recorded in the northeast corner. It was hexagonal in shape. The man had been placed with his head to the west in the supine position with his hands over his pelvis. Skeletal remains were in fair condition, with the majority of the right arm missing and the cranium fragmented.

Two 1.4 cm copper-alloy domed buttons were recovered from the screen during excavation. One was of solid cast one-piece construction, the other of two-piece construction with a cast shank. Because the buttons were found in the screen, it could not be determined whether they were directly associated with the man's remains. The buttons were lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The southwest edge of the Burial 271 coffin was slightly disturbed, possibly by adjacent Burial 238, a Late Middle grave of a man in his forties, which would indicate that Burial 271 predated that grave. The two burials were at approximately the same elevation. Burial 312, a Middle group infant grave, lay immediately northeast of Burial 271, also at approximately the same elevation. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, and absent any evidence to the contrary, Burial 271 has been assigned to the Middle group.





Series 11 Catalog # 1268 Datum Point: 74

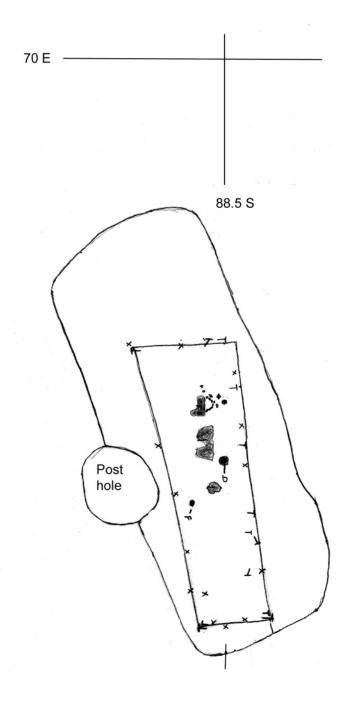
Grid coordinates: S88.5/E70 Elevation of cranium: 2.80' asl

Temporal Group: Early

Burial 272 was of an infant between 3 and 9 months old. The grave was identified during excavation of Burial 263 and was given an opening elevation of 3.15'. As excavation continued, a portion of the coffin lid was identified covering the child's mandibular molars, at an elevation of 2.80'. Traces of coffin wood were also present in the middle of the burial, but the coffin bottom was not recorded. The wood sample that was recovered was identified as cedar. Excavators noted that several nails were found *in situ* with very little rusting and appeared to be in their "original state". A post hole cut into the south side of the grave shaft; it was not given a feature designation and there is no record of its contents.

The infant was interred in a four-sided coffin with the head to the west. The remains were in poor condition, consisting only of mandible fragments and teeth.

Burial 272 was directly overlain by Burial 263, another infant burial, in an apparent shared grave. Burial 218, of a very young child, overlay both of them, and Burial 119, a Late Middle adult burial, overlay all three. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burials 263 and 272 have been assigned to the Early Group.





Series 23B Catalog #1269 Datum Point: 71

Grid coordinates: 84.5S/55E Elevation at high point: 4.27 Temporal Group: Undetermined

Burial 273 consisted of a few disarticulated skeletal elements recovered from a disturbed context alongside a foundation wall. Age and sex could not be determined. The bones lay immediately above Burial 275, a grave that held a partial coffin and leg bones. Because Burial 273 had suffered extensive disturbance, no temporal assignment could be made.

The field drawing did not represent remains *in situ* within in a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

Burial 274/280

Series 15A

Catalog #s 1278, 2256, 1289

Datum Point: 74

Grid coordinates: S79.5/E70

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.55' asl for cranial fragments removed as Burial

274; 2.80' asl for long bones designated Burial 280.

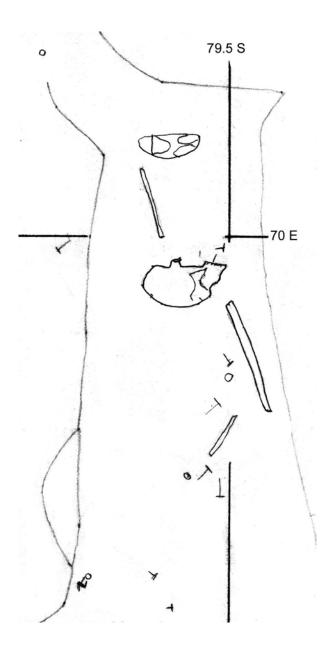
Temporal Group: Early

Burial 274/280 yielded the remains of an adult inconclusively identified as female, excavated as two separate burials but subsequently considered as a single disturbed interment. Burial 274 was identified first. It consisted of cranial and some long bone fragments recovered from within the balk between Burials 295 and 282. The cranium and a radius were exposed at an elevation of 4.44'. Excavation was halted in order to scrape down the entire area, and Burial 295 to the south was uncovered and removed. As excavation continued the left (north) side of the burial appeared to lie in the grave cut of Burial 282 to the north. Scattered nails were found, the lowest at an elevation of 2.78'. No coffin was found associated with Burial 274. The remains appeared to have been disturbed by the interment of a later burial, possibly Burial 295.

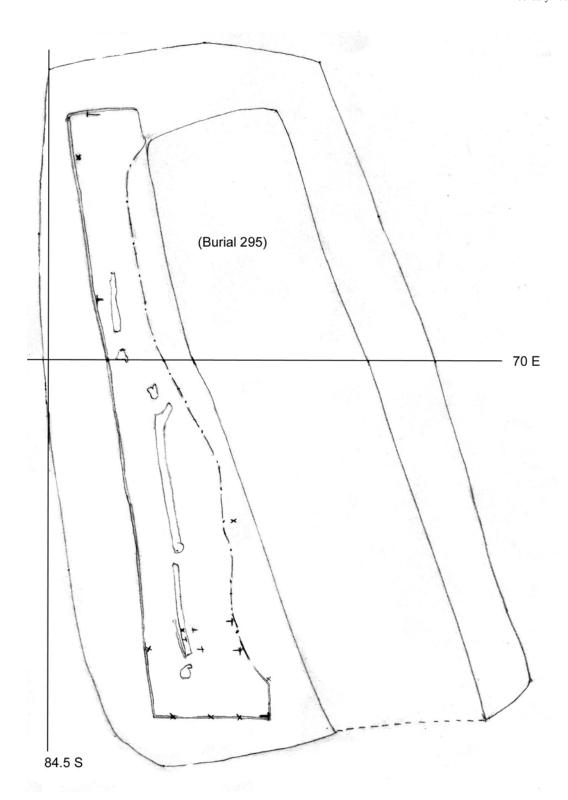
The portion of the remains designated Burial 280 was originally exposed after the excavation of Burial 253 to the south, when the south grave cut and coffin line became visible. Excavators noted that the burial was highly disturbed. They pursued the six-foot coffin line and found three nails along the west end before the coffin line disappeared. Two more nails were recorded in the eastern section. The opening elevation for the coffin was recorded as 3.50', with only a small portion of the coffin lid recovered. A disarticulated right mastoid process and left femur, along with a tobacco pipe stem fragment and a fragment of wine bottle glass, were recorded at approximately 3.40'; these were apparently from the disturbed fill soil, and the artifacts may not be associated with the burial. The coffin bottom was identified at an elevation of 2.70' in the east central portion.

The coffin was four-sided in shape, and the individual had been placed in supine position with the head to the west.

Burials 239 and 229 overlay Burial 274. Burial 295 truncated Burial 274/280 along the north side. Based on stratigraphy and coffin shape, Burial 274/280 has been placed in the Early Group.









Series 23B Catalog #1272 Datum Point: 78

Grid coordinates: 84.5S/55E

Elevation at highest point of skeletal remains: 3.62' asl

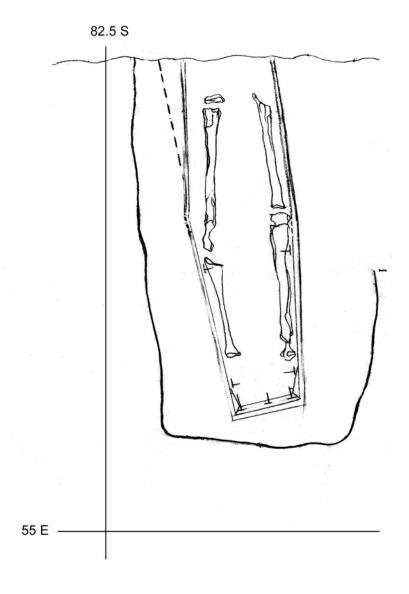
Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 275 consisted only of coffin remains and leg bones of an adult of unknown age, possibly a woman. The grave was located along the west side of Lot 14 and had been truncated by a foundation wall, leaving only the eastern part of the coffin. Large stones from the wall were removed from atop the burial during excavation. The grave shaft outline was visible, but the soil within it was not described and no cultural material was recorded or recovered from the fill. Disarticulated bones designated Burial 273 lay immediately above Burial 275.

The coffin's outline was first exposed at an elevation of 3.62', and the bottom was noted at 2.96'. Its shape was not determined, although numerous nails were recorded *in situ* and recovered. Skeletal remains were in poor condition, with the foot bones missing.

The grave shaft of Burial 212, a Middle group child of 4 ½ to 5 ½ years, appeared to have overlain the southeast corner of Burial 275's grave shaft.

Because no clear evidence placed it earlier or later, Burial 275 has been assigned by default to the Middle temporal group.





Catalog # 1273 Datum Point: 64

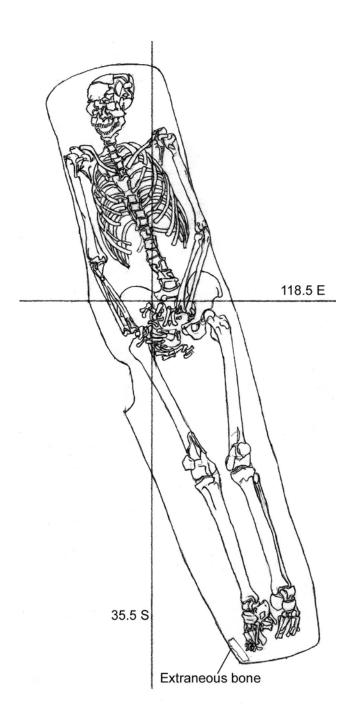
Grid coordinates: S35.5/E118.5 Elevation of Cranium: 0.05' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 276 held the remains of a woman between 20 and 24 years old. The grave was located in the far northern part of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. The woman had been buried directly in the mottled brown sandy silt, without a coffin. The soil in the grave shaft contained a scattering of charcoal, brick, and stone cobbles. A substantial number of whole and partial animal bones were recovered, including 129 pieces identified as cow bone (ranging from phalanges to horn core), along with pig and sheep bones and bones of unidentified mammals. Shell and seeds were also present in the fill. Ceramics included locally produced stoneware and kiln furniture, undecorated redware with lead-manganese glazes in light brown or black, white-salt glazed stoneware, polychrome Delft, and Staffordshire slipware. The grave fill also yielded 2 partial handwrought nails, tobacco pipe bowl and stem fragments, and window and bottle glass.

The woman had been laid in supine position with her head to the west. Her legs and arms were extended and her hands rested on her pelvis. No pins or other artifacts were definitively associated with the burial; however, the field notes refer to a possible coin recovered from slightly above the body, approximately rib level on the woman's right side. No further mention is made of a coin, but a button was cataloged in the laboratory. It was not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Burial 313 and Burial 252 flanked Burial 276 to the north and south respectively. These graves held an adult male and an adolescent, probably male, who had been buried without a coffin. Because the grave lay to the north of the former boundary fence, Burial 276, along with the two adjacent burials, was assigned to the Late Group.





Catalog # 1274 Datum Point: 78

Grid coordinates: S77/E52

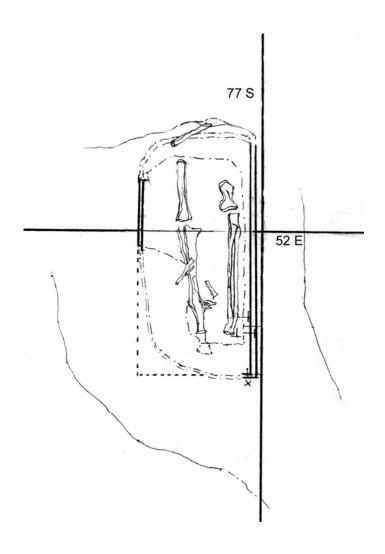
Elevation of highest skeletal element: 4.01' asl (distal tibia)

Temporal Group: Middle

The remains of the individual in Burial 277 were so severely disturbed that age and sex could not be determined, although he or she was probably a child. The burial was truncated on the west by a foundation wall along the west side of Lot 14, leaving only the lower portions of the legs.

No cultural material was noted in this burial save for nails and coffin fragments. The coffin lid lay at 4.08' asl; it was too severely truncated for its shape to be determined, but the remaining areas of wood were intact enough to yield samples for analysis. The lid was determined to be eastern white pine, and the coffin bottom was made of cedar. Nails were mapped in the field, but were either not collected by the excavators or were mislabeled when brought to the laboratory. The deceased had been laid supine with his or her head to the west.

Nearby burials that were similarly disturbed included Burials 287, Burial 275, and Burial 228. All of these burials appeared to have been at a similar angle and evenly spaced in relationship to Burial 277, which has been designated a Middle Group interment.





Series 46 Catalog # 1275 Datum Point: 66

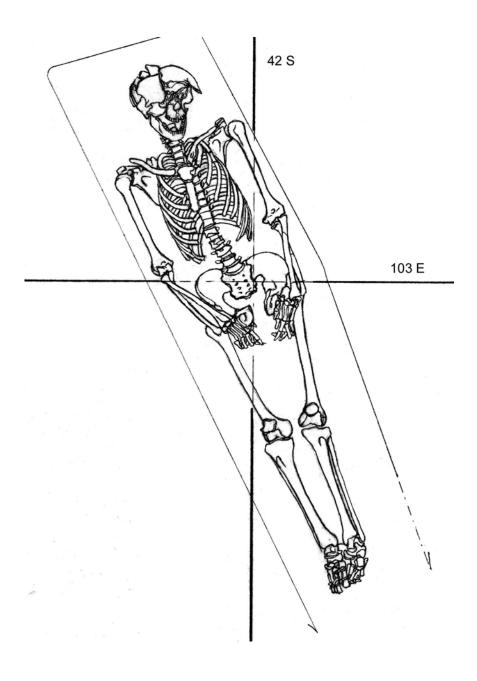
Grid coordinates: S42/E103 Elevation of Cranium: -0.34' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 278 was of a man between 45 and 55 years of age. The grave was located along the western edge of Lot 16, underneath Feature 111/120, a filled-in "channel" running approximately 25 feet in a north-south direction. The grave shaft outline was rectangular in shape. Shaft fill soil was described as mottled silt clay with sand, gravel, and cobbles; it contained two clay pipe stem fragments, a roughly circular lead disc (hand cut and flattened, measuring 1 ¾" in diameter), fourteen salt glazed stoneware sherds, three sherds of delft, three of redware, one white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, an oyster shell fragment, a skull fragment from a large mammal, a bovine lumbar vertebrae fragment, and a few pieces of nails. A copper alloy button measuring 16 mm in diameter was cataloged in the laboratory, but its provenience was not recorded. Conservators' notes indicate that the button back exhibited gold plating and was associated with fabric. No textile fragments were in the collection examined by the Howard University Archaeology Team. The button was photographed, but neither the 35 mm slide nor the item itself was recovered after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

No coffin was associated with this burial, nor were any artifacts recovered or noted in association with the remains. The highest elevation was recorded at the cranium at -0.34, and the lowest at -0.72. The man was in supine position with his hands resting on his pelvis and his head to the west. Excavators noted that the skeleton was well articulated and preservation was good.

The north edge of Burial 278 lay beneath the south edge of Burial 259, and Burial 230 was approximately 3.5' to the southeast and slightly higher in elevation. Both Burials 259 and 230 probably post-dated Burial 278. Because all of these graves were located north of the former boundary fence, they were assigned to the Late temporal group.





Series 15A Datum Point: 74

Grid coordinates: S79.5/E76.5

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.32' asl

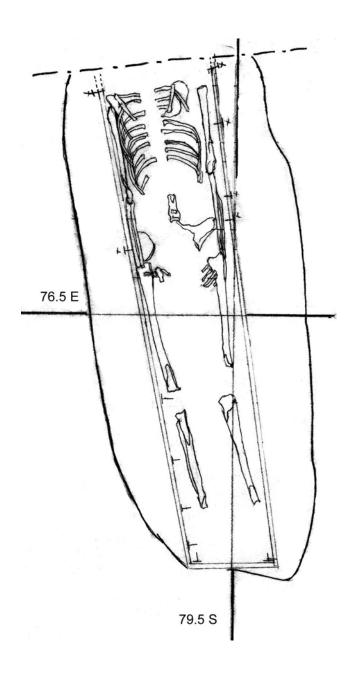
Temporal Group: Early

Burial 279 held the remains of an adult of undetermined age and sex. The grave was truncated on the west end, with the head of the coffin and cranium missing. It is likely that the damage occurred during the interment of Burial 295, which lay at a lower elevation just to the west.

Although a sample of the coffin lid was taken, its elevation was not recorded, nor was the coffin bottom mentioned. The highest recorded elevation for the burial was 3.32', on the left tibia, and the lowest 2.75 on the right tibia. The coffin was four-sided in shape, and the deceased had been placed supine with the head to the west, arms at the sides.

Skeletal remains were in poor condition. The pelvis and metatarsals were missing, with the remaining bones badly eroded. As noted, the cranium was missing due to the truncation of the burial. A cranium and some long bones were recovered from a disturbed context to the east (labeled Burial 274), but these remains are probably associated with Burial 280 rather than 279.

Burial 295 had apparently truncated Burial 279, and 251 overlay the eastern portion of the grave. Because of its stratigraphic position, and because the coffin was probably four-sided and tapered, this grave is assigned to the Early Group.





	New York African Burial Ground Archaeology Final Report February 2006
Burial 280 See burial 274	

Series 15A Catalog # 1290 Datum Point: 74

Grid coordinates: S79.5/E75 Elevation of cranium: 3.78' asl

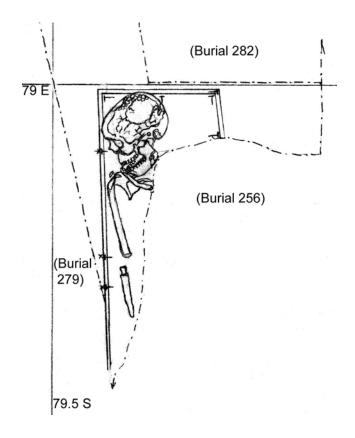
Temporal Group: Early

Burial 281 yielded remains identified as a probable man, whose age could not be determined. The associated soil was described as grey, densely packed clay and red sand. A pipe stem fragment (6/64" bore) was recovered from the grave shaft. No grave shaft outline was recorded, due to the density of adjacent and overlying burials. The grave had been truncated and only the west end of the coffin, the skull, and right shoulder and arm bones remained *in situ*.

The coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 4.01', based on coffin nails found along the southwestern edge, and the bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.51' based on the lowest elevation of skeletal remains. The man had been interred in a four-sided coffin with his head to the west and his arms at his sides.

Remains consisted only of the cranium and right humerus, ulna, scapula and clavicle. The man's upper and lower incisors were filed into a "bow-tie" or hourglass shape. Two straight pins were recorded *in situ* on the cranium; one had a patch of hair and skin adhered to it.

The majority of Burial 281 had been truncated by Burial 256, which was in turn overlain by Burial 251 and Burial 211. Based on the four-sided coffin shape and the stratigraphic relationship to these burials, Burial 281 has been designated an Early Group interment.





Series 15A Catalog # 1301 Datum Point: 74

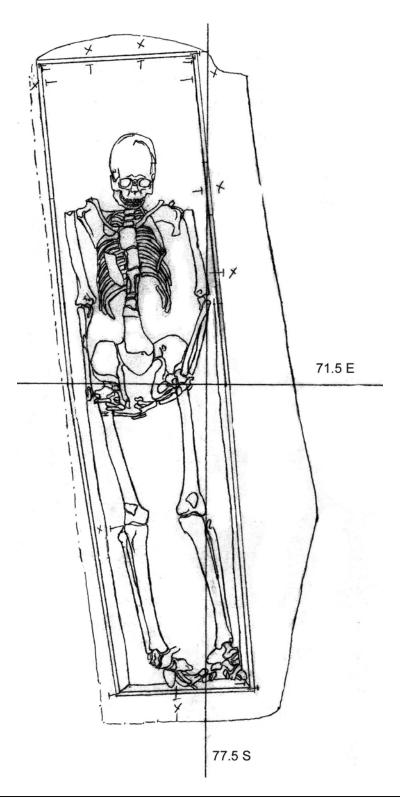
Grid coordinates: S77.5/E71.5 Elevation of cranium: 3.35' asl

Temporal Group: Early

Burial 282 was of a man between 32 ½ and 42 ½ years of age. The grave shaft fill consisted of two separate and distinct soil types, yellow-grey clay and coarse red sand, but notes do not indicate where each was observed. The grave cut was visible along the northern and western sides, but was obscured along the eastern side and in the southeast corner by excavation balks.

The four-sided coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 3.50', and the coffin floor was reached at 2.64'. The man had been laid in supine position with the head to the west and hands resting over the pelvis. The coffin appeared rectangular, but may have tapered slightly toward the foot. Nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter, including several vertical nails attaching the lid. Numerous whole and fragmented seeds were recovered from the area surrounding the distal right tibia; these were not mentioned in field notes and were apparently destroyed on September 11, 2001.

The south side of the Burial 282 grave shaft was partially overlain by disturbed elements of Burial 274/280, an Early Group burial of a probable woman. This indicates that Burial 282 pre-dates Burial 295, which is the interment that caused the disturbance to Burial 274/280. Based on these relationships and the coffin shape, Burial 282 has been assigned to the Early temporal group.





Series 28 Catalog # 1302

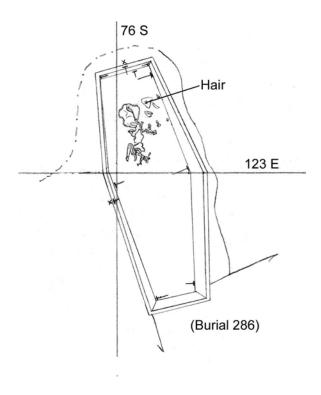
Datum Point: 54 (3.94' asl) Grid coordinates: S76/E123 Elevation of cranium: 0.83' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 283 was of a child between 4 and 8 months old. The grave shaft contained with yellow-brown sandy loam mottled with grey and black sandy loam, which excavators thought may have been from decayed wood. No artifacts were recovered from the grave shaft.

Excavation revealed the hexagonal coffin lid, visible only as stain in the soil, at 1.13' asl. It was largely indistinguishable from the coffin floor, onto which it had collapsed. Coffin nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter. A wood sample was identified in the laboratory as red pine.

The infant had been laid in the coffin with the head to the west. Cranial fragments, teeth, and a few post-cranial bones of the upper torso were preserved, but no limb elements. Excavators noted that the burial slumped toward the south; this was probably due to the underlying burial (Burial 306). A straight pin was recorded on the upper torso, and a tuft of hair was recorded near the cranial fragments.

Burial 283 lay immediately above the northeast edge of Burial 306, which held a man between 28 and 44 years old. Burial 300, an infant burial, lay just to the southeast of Burial 283, also above Burial 306. Burial 283 apparently cut into, and thus post-dates, the grave containing Burials 268 and 286, an infant and young child. Lacking clear evidence of earlier or later interment, the entire cluster of Burials has been assigned to the Middle Group. It is possible, however, that either or both of the children's graves (Burials 300 and 283) that overlay the others belong with a later temporal group; there is no way to determine the interval between the lower and upper interments





Series 25A

Catalog #: 1303 and #1476(?)

Datum Point: 83

Grid coordinates: S79.5/E114 Elevation of cranium: 2.09' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 284 was the grave of a man between 21 and 28 years of age. Associated soil was described as mottled yellow and brown silty clay and reddish sand. Small pieces of glass and other modern debris were found in the overlying fill, along with 2 fragments of long bones from an unidentified large mammal. The grave was disturbed during mechanical removal of a deep layer of modern and historic overburden, resulting in the torso being shifted about a foot to the north.

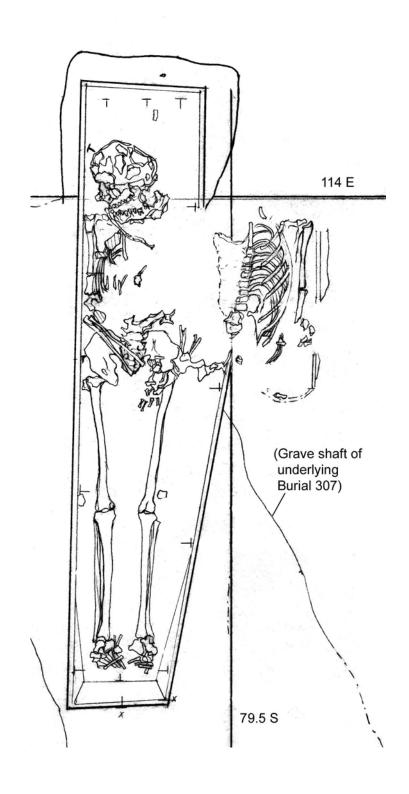
The coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 2.04' and the bottom was reached at 1.38' in the center. The bottom was intact except along the north side, which had been bent outward and broken in the center. Excavators noted that below the coffin bottom, the mottled grave pit fill appeared to have well-defined margins oriented differently than the man's burial. This area was explored but no cultural material was found.

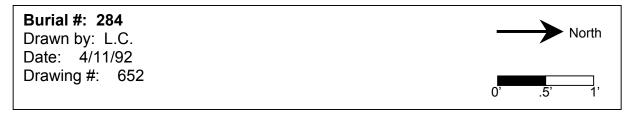
The field drawing indicates a straight-sided coffin, but the actual shape is questionable due to the severe disturbance to the grave. The man had been placed in supine position with his head to the west and his right hand over his pelvis. The skull was severely fragmented.

One coffin nail (catalog number 1476) that was found with Burial 307 may actually belong to this burial. No other artifacts, except grave fill debris and coffin remains, were found in association with this burial.

Burials 255 and 265, the graves of two co-interred infants, lay adjacent to the southeast corner of Burial 284 at a slightly lower elevation. A relative sequence for Burials 255/265 and Burial 284 was not determined. The grave shaft of Burial 284 truncated an underlying grave, Burial 307.

Based on stratigraphy, and because the coffin shape is considered "undetermined," Burial 284 is assigned to the default Middle Group.





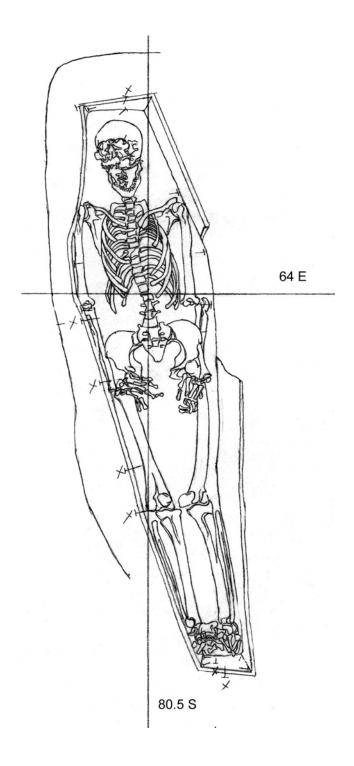
Series 15A Catalog # 1304 Datum Point: 73

Grid coordinates: S80.5/E64 Elevation of cranium: 3.57' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 285 yielded the remains of a woman between 20 and 30 years of age. The associated soil was described as mottled silty clay with sand. A piece of kiln furniture (an angled spacer) and a sherd of wine bottle glass were recovered from the shaft fill. The north side of the grave appeared to have been cut into during the placement of Burial 238, which disturbed the coffin wall. The eastern portion of the grave cut could not be discerned during excavation.

The woman's coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 3.74' based on coffin nails found on the southern side, where it was relatively intact. The cranium was at 3.57', and the coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.01' (recorded near the center). The coffin was hexagonal in shape. Nails were recorded *in situ* around the top and bottom perimeter, including several positioned vertically, which had attached the lid to the sides, head and foot. The woman had been laid in supine position, with her head to the west, arms at her sides, and hands over her pelvis. A bit of hair was recovered adhering to wood within a soil pedestal during cleaning of the skeletal remains.

Burial 238 cut the north side of Burial 285. In turn, Burial 238 was overlain by Burial 195 (on the south side) and Burial 214 (on the north side). Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 285 has been assigned to the Middle temporal group.





Series 28 Catalog # 1308

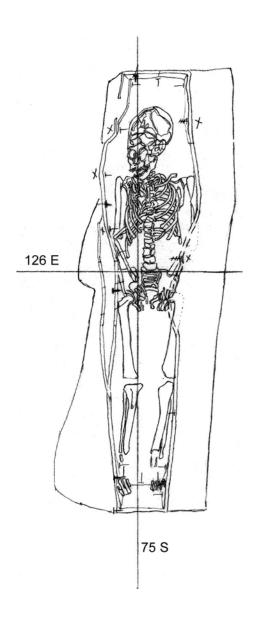
Datum Point: 98 (3.9° asl) Grid coordinates: S75/126E Elevation of cranium: 0.65° asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 286 was of a child between 4 ½ and 8 ½ years of age. The grave lay within the same shaft as Burial 268, an infant who lay immediately above. The fill for Burial 286 was not described, but that of 268 was described as reddish brown sand mottled with grey-brown clay. Two sherds of grey salt-glazed stoneware and three kiln spacers were found in the fill associated with Burial 268, and four sherds of locally-produced salt-glazed stoneware and a sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware were recovered from the fill surrounding Burial 286.

The coffin lid stain, recorded at approximately 0.4' asl, was very distinct. The coffin bottom was recorded at 0.27'. The grave cut for Burial 306 to the south cut into the south side of the grave, obscuring the southern side of the coffin, and the north side was also misshapen; excavators were not able to determine the shape with certainty. However, the locations of the *in situ* nails at the head of the coffin suggested a hexagonal coffin (i.e. it tapered at the head). In addition to coffin nails around the perimeter, two vertically oriented screws were recorded *in situ* along the north side. (These were placed on either side of the where the coffin "shoulder" would have been and thus also suggest a hexagonal shape, since they may have been used to hold the bent side board in place.)

The child had been laid in a supine position with the head to the west and the arms at the sides, hands resting on the pelvis. No artifacts were found within the coffin. The entire skeleton had been flattened, and though most elements were present the bones were described as "mushy" and fragile when they were removed.

Burial 268 was directly above and in the same grave as Burial 286. The coffin of Burial 283 cut into this grave's shaft. Along with Burial 300, another infant grave, Burial 283 overlay Burial 306, which held a man between 28 and 44 years old. The relationship between Burial 306 and Burials 268/286 was not clear from the field photographs or drawings, but excavators believed that Burial 306, which was slightly lower in elevation, cut into the grave shaft of Burials 268 and 286. This apparent cluster of adult-with-child burials has been assigned to the Middle Group.





Series 17 Catalog # 1310 Datum Point: 78

Grid coordinates: S73.5/E53

Elevation of Cranium: 3.63' asl (no cranium/high at proximal L tibia)

Temporal Group: Middle

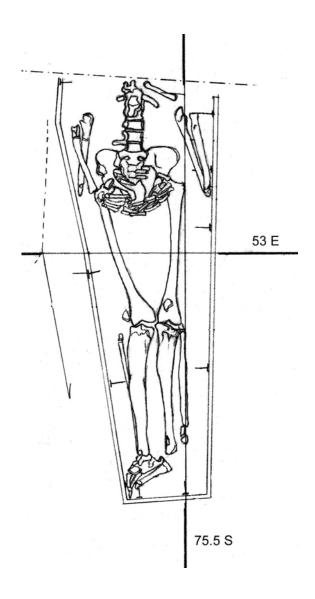
The man in Burial 287 was between 18 and 20 years old at death. The grave was located along the south side of a post-hole alignment from a fence that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. A foundation wall along the west side of Lot 14 had truncated its western end. Mottled tan, brown, and orange silty clay filled the grave shaft, sparsely littered with ceramics (2 fragments of kiln furniture and 1 salt-glazed stoneware sherd), shell (a few fragments of oyster and hard-shell clam), and a pipe stem fragment (bored at 5/64"). Field notes also mention glass, but none was collected.

The coffin appeared to be hexagonal (one "shoulder" was recorded on the south side). The lid lay at an elevation of 4.27' asl. Several nails were drawn *in situ* along the coffin sides and at the foot. Enough remained of his skeleton to indicate that the young man had been laid out supine, head to the west. His legs and arms were extended, his hands resting on the pelvis. The remains were flooded during excavation and had not preserved well. The left foot was missing, which excavators attributed to disturbance by an adjacent burial (Burial 197). It is also possible that the later pit feature, Feature 106, which cut into the southwest corner of Burial 197, detached the left foot; however, no human bone was noted in the pit fill.

The north-south wall that bisected Burial 287 also cut across Burials 277, 275, 228, 162, 188, and 125. Construction on Lot 13 would have destroyed scores of burials to the immediate west.

Burial 287 was overlain slightly by Burial 197. To the east lay Burial 310, a 44- to 52-year old woman's grave, Burial 176 (of a man in his early 20s) and Burials 145 and 146 (an empty coffin and an infant burial). These burials, and probably Burial 287 as well, had been placed just along the south side of the fence that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. Therefore, the burial would date to the time the fence was standing, prior to the British occupation.

Based on stratigraphy relative to other burials and its location, Burial 287 is assigned to the Middle Group.





Series 35 Catalog # 1312 Datum Point: 54

Grid coordinates: S74.5/E120

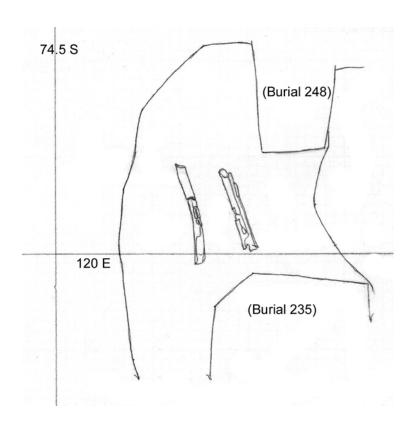
Skeletal High Elevation: 1.61' (right femur)

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 288 consisted only of two partial femurs, which lay parallel in hard-packed sandy clay. Age and sex for this individual could not be determined, although he or she was probably an adult. No cultural material was noted in association with this burial.

Although the bones, found without coffin remains and apparently isolated, appear to have been redeposited, the position of the femurs (in correct placement for supine burial with the head to the west) suggests they were still articulated. If the bones were in fact undisturbed from their original place of interment, this burial had no coffin. The right femur was at an elevation of 1.61', the left at 1.55'.

Burial 288 was impacted by the later interment of Burial 235 to the east and/or Burial 248 to the northwest. The shafts of both burials appear to have cut into the clay soil that surrounded the femurs. Another disturbed burial in close proximity was Burial 292 (consisting only of a possible coffin line and a bone fragment, located at the northeast corner of Burial 235. Burials 288 and 292 may represent the same individual, whose grave was extensively disturbed by Burial 235. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 288 has been assigned to the Middle Group.





Series 26 Catalog # 1321 Datum Point: 83

Grid coordinates: 81S/125E Elevation of cranium: 1.73 asl Temporal Group: Late Middle

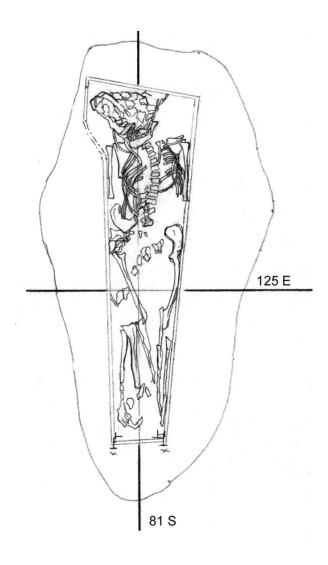
Burial 289 contained the remains of a child between 5 and 9 years of age. The grave cut outline was visible surrounding the coffin, and the shaft fill matrix was described as reddish coarse sand (redeposited subsoil). One piece of kiln furniture was recovered from the fill.

The coffin was first exposed at an elevation of 1.67' on the south, tilting down to 1.29' on the north. It was four-sided, tapered slightly toward the foot. No elevations were

recorded for the coffin bottom, but the lowest elevation of skeletal remains was 0.99°. The child had been placed supine with the head to the west. The remains were in fair to poor condition, with most bone eroded, crushed or broken. Two pins were recorded *in situ*, one near the neck and one at the right hip. A quartz crystal was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the skeletal remains.



Burial 289 lay directly above the southwest portion of Burial 332, which held a man whose coffin lid was embellished with the initials "HW" and the number "38." The grave shaft outline indicates that this was a separate grave, though the child may have been deliberately placed above the man. Burial 289 has been assigned to the Late Middle Group along with Burial 332.





Series 25C Catalog # 1324 Datum Point: 83

Grid coordinates: S84/E114 Elevation of cranium: 2.32' asl Temporal Group: Late Middle

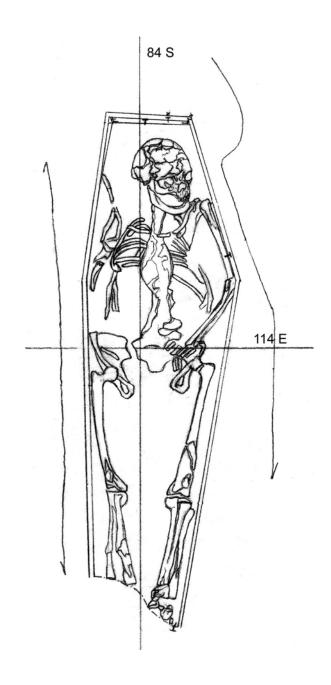
Burial 290 held the remains of a man between 45 and 55 years of age. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 16 near Republican Alley. This area had been subjected to backhoe operations and there was much damage to burials. Only the north edge of the Burial 290 grave shaft outline was discernable. The fill was described as grey-brown sandy silt mottled with yellow-grey silt. No artifacts were noted in the grave shaft.

The lid of the hexagonal coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 3.21'. The eastern end of the coffin lid had been truncated (probably by the backhoe). Coffin nails were recorded *in situ*. A wood sample was identified as black walnut; this was the only example of a hardwood coffin found at this site.

The man had been placed in the supine position with his head to the west and his hands over his pelvis. Portions of the feet were missing and the right arm was fragmented and disarticulated; also, heavy machinery operating in the area had caused compression fractures prior to excavation. One straight pin was found on the man's cranium, and field notes refer to hair recovered during excavation.

The west end of Burial 290 overlay the east (foot) end of Burial 308, an Early period grave of an individual of undetermined age and sex.

Based on its overall stratigraphic position, Burial 290 has been assigned to the Late Middle Group.





Series 22

Catalog # 1335 and 1265

Datum Point: 79

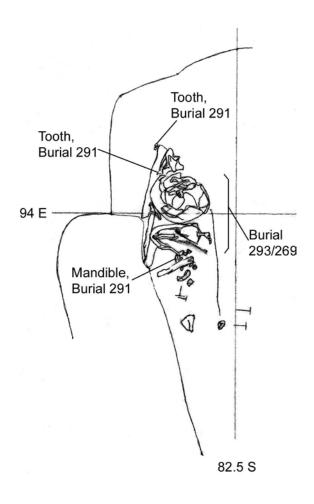
Grid coordinates: S82.5/E94

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.89' asl

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 291 consisted of the disturbed remains, consisting of teeth and a mandible, of a child between 3 and 5 years of age. The remains were found disarticulated in the southwest corner of the grave shaft of Burial 267, and were commingled with skeletal elements of another individual, Burial 269. It is not possible to determine whether the child was interred in a coffin.

The paucity of evidence for earlier or later assignment has, by default, consigned Burial 291 to the Middle temporal group.





Series 35 Catalog # 1139 Datum Point: 54

Grid coordinates: S72.5/123.5E

Elevation of highest element: 1.93' asl (bone fragment)

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 292 contained only one fragment of an adult long bone. The remains were surrounded with silty clay, scattered with pockets of sand. Excavators did not note any cultural material within the grave shaft, although an "above the lid" soil sample contained several seeds. A single seed was analyzed for species and identified as raspberry. Fragments of coffin wood were also recovered in the soil sample.

A probable coffin line was observed at an approximate elevation of 1.93'. Nail fragments were recovered from the burial, though only one was recorded *in situ*, near the presumed coffin line. The presence of a coffin cannot be confirmed, due to the ephemeral remains and minimal recording in the field.

The archaeological and forensic teams raised the possibility that Burial 292 may have been part of Burial 235 (a 28- to 42-year-old woman). However, the remains in Burial 235 were complete, lacking no long bones; thus the two burials must represent discrete individuals. Burial 233, a coffin fragment assumed to have been a deteriorated infant burial, may have been instead the foot of an adult-size coffin. This raises the possibility that Burials 233 and 292 were portions of the same interment, bisected during the placement of Burial 235. Burial 288, which held a pair of articulated adult femora dated to the Middle phase, may also have been of the same individual. Based on the apparent sequence of interments in the area, Burial 292 has been placed in the Middle Group.

The field drawing does not provide information on the burial context and therefore has not been reproduced.

Burial 293/269

Series 22

Catalog # 1350, 1265 and 1335

Datum Point: 79

Grid coordinates: S82.5/E94

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.55' asl

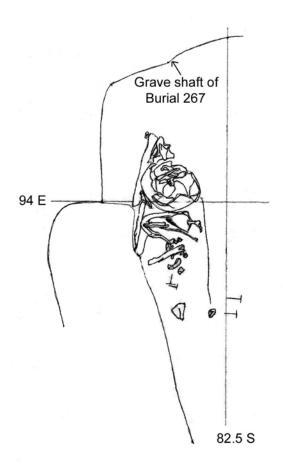
Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 293 was the grave of an adult, probably male, whose age could not be determined. The grave shaft consisted of flaky, dry, very stony silt mottled with orange-brown silt. The bottom of the grave fill consisted of tan semi-laminate silt. Feature 113 (a grave-shaped, east-west oriented pit) and Feature 103 (a 19th century pit feature) cut into the western end of the grave. Excavators noted that the soil in Feature 113 was typical of grave fills, and postulated that this was an infant or child's grave with no evidence of a coffin or skeletal remains. The feature was not assigned a burial number. A tobacco pipe bowl fragment was recovered from the grave fill of Burial 293; it may have actually been associated with Feature 103.

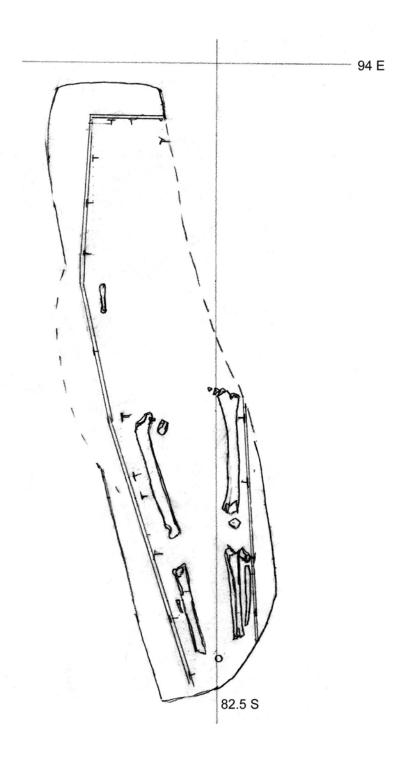
Excavation of Burial 293 began at an elevation of 4.10', recorded in the southwest area. The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 3.95', and the bottom was reached at 3.25'. The northwest corner and most of the north side of the coffin were missing as a result of the interment of Burial 267. Many nails were recorded *in situ* along the perimeter of the extant portion of the coffin.

The man had been placed in a hexagonal coffin in supine position with his head to the west. Skeletal remains were in poor condition and consisted of fragmented long bones and hand bones. Excavators suggested that a cranium, upper limb bones and parts of a pelvis found disarticulated in the grave fill of Burial 267 (designated Burial 269 and given the catalog number 1265) were from Burial 293. Laboratory analysis confirmed this deduction.

Burial 267 disturbed Burial 293 along the north side, and some bones from the latter were redeposited in the grave shaft of Burial 267. Skeletal fragments of a young child found in the Burial 293 grave shaft were designated Burial 291 and assigned to the Middle group. Based on its elevation and orientation, Burial 296 probably overlay or cut into the south edge of the Burial 293 grave shaft. Burial 293 has been assigned to the Middle temporal group.









Series 12

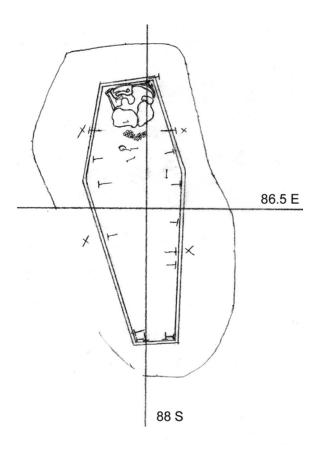
Catalog # 1352

Datum Point: 76 [the location of Datum Point 76 is unknown; using an elevation of 4.29 given for DP 76, depths taken for this burial yield elevations which are impossible based on relationships to other burials; it is assumed that elevations for this burial are not calculable]

Grid coordinates: S88/E86.5 Elevation of cranium: ? Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 294 yielded the remains of a child between 6 and 12 months of age. The grave shaft fill was described as silty clay mottled with gravel, cut into the substrate. The southeastern portion of the grave cut was obscured, and the remains consisted only of only cranial fragments and teeth. The infant had been placed in a hexagonal coffin, supine with the head to the west. Five brass shroud pins were recorded *in situ* in the area of the head and torso.

Burial 294 was mapped as partially underlying the western end of Burial 142, but it was recorded at a higher elevation. It was excavated 2 months later than Burial 142, and was substantially intact, with only the southeast edge of the grave shaft outline indistinct. The burial was either mapped incorrectly or its elevation was recorded inaccurately. Its actual relationship to Burial 142 cannot be determined. Burial 294 has been assigned by default to the Middle Group.





Series 15A Catalog # 1366 Datum Point: 74

Grid coordinates: S82/E70 Elevation of cranium: 2.59' asl Temporal Group: Middle

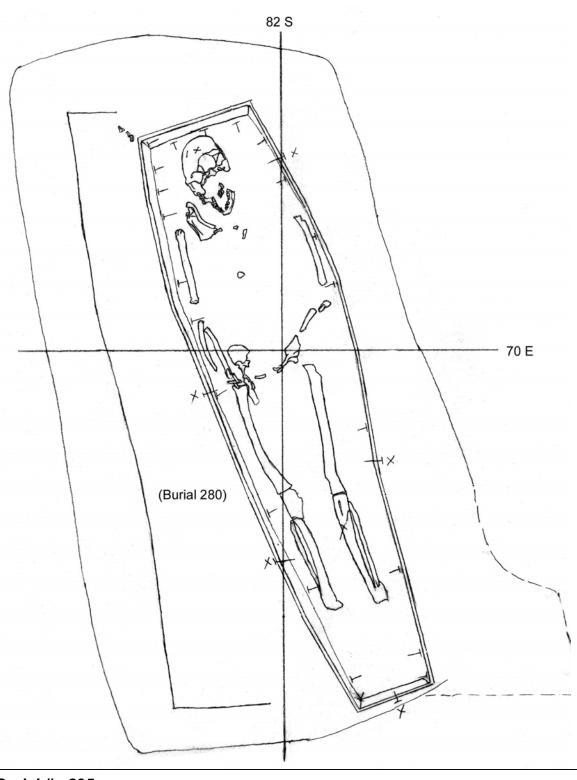
Burial 295 yielded the remains of a woman between 30 and 50 years of age. The grave shaft fill was described as yellow-brown soil mottled with grey silty sand; no artifacts were recovered from the fill soil associated with this burial.

The coffin lid was first distinguished at an elevation of 3.10', based on coffin nails found along the southern coffin wall. Excavators noted, illustrated, and sampled several small strips of wood found lying down the middle of the coffin lid. The coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 2.09' at a point near the center of the coffin. Some coffin wood was preserved along the walls and a dark wood strip was found running down the center of the coffin bottom, similar to the strips found in the coffin lid. Excavators speculated that this may have been a different wood than that of the rest of the coffin, although none of the wood samples from this burial were identified as to species. Numerous nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter of the coffin at the top and bottom.

The woman had been laid in a hexagonal coffin in supine position with her head to the west and her hands resting over her pelvis. Her remains were in poor condition, with the skull crushed and only some teeth present. Most of the remains other than the long bones had decomposed and had left organic stains in the soil. The foot bones were missing, with only a gray stain remaining. Fragments of "extraneous" human bone were found outside the southwest corner of the coffin, probably from the underlying Burial 280.

Three pins with hair adhering were recorded on the cranium. A possible pin was recorded on the field drawing of the coffin lid, above the right lower leg bones, but this pin was not cataloged in the lab.

Burial 295 was overlain by Burial 215 by 0.46', by Burial 246 by 0.46', and on the west end by Burial 253 by 0.11'. Burial 295 truncated Burial 280 along the latter's north side. A wide grave shaft outline was recorded in the field, apparently encompassing Burials 274/280, 295, 246, 239, and 215. Burials 246, 239 and 215 may have been interred within the grave shaft of the underlying, earlier burials, including Burial 295. It appears that Burial 280 was disturbed when Burial 295 was interred, suggesting that Burial 295 may post-date Burial 280 by a number of years, or at least that Burial 280 was un-marked and unknown to those interring Burial 295. Burial 295 also appears to have truncated the west end of Burial 279. Based on stratigraphy and lacking any evidence to place it more precisely in time, Burial 295 is assigned to the Middle Group.





Series 22 Catalog # 1370 Datum Point: 79

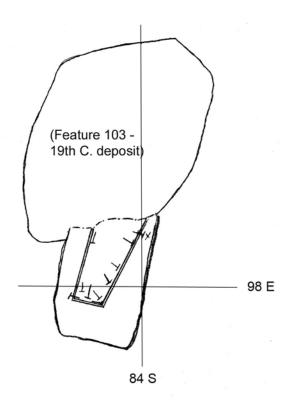
Grid coordinates: S84/E98 No human remains found Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 296 consisted only of the remains of an infant-sized coffin and a tooth bud that was recovered from the soil. An age of 0.5 to 2.9 years for the child was assigned based on the tooth bud. The grave shaft was filled with stony, compact, brown loamy silt with mottles of charcoal flecks. "Feature 103" (a small semi-circular feature dating to the nineteenth century) truncated the western portion of the grave.

Excavation of the burial began at an elevation of 4.35' along the eastern grave cut and the coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 4.25' in the southeast corner. The bottom was at 3.90'. The coffin tapered at the toe, but due to the disturbance caused by Feature 103 its overall shape is unclear.

Based on its elevation and orientation, excavators presumed that Burial 296 would have overlain or cut into the south edge of the grave shaft for Burial 293, the disturbed remains of a probable male adult.

Burial 296 has also been assigned to the default Middle Group.





Catalog # 1379 Datum Point: 54

Grid coordinates: S62.5/E117.5

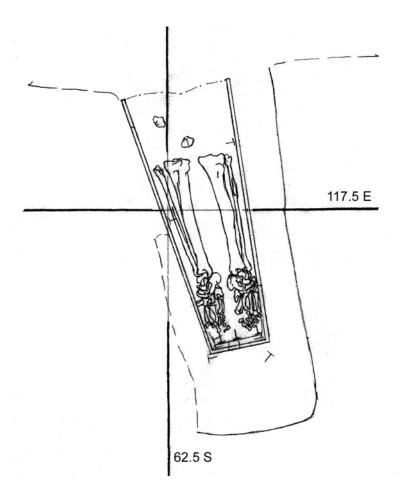
Elevation of highest skeletal element: 0.04' asl

Temporal Group: Late

Burial 297 was of a man between 30 and 40 years, whose remains consisted only of legs below the femora. The grave was located just to the north of the alignment of post holes marking a fence that once crossed the site. It was truncated on the west by Feature 58, a privy in the rear of Lot 16, and human remains believed to be from Burial 297 were found within this feature and its trench soil. Thirty-eight pieces of cow bone, mostly metacarpals or metatarsals, were recovered from the grave fill, which was dug into an animal waste dump identified in this area of the site. The grave fill also held six small sherds of Whieldon ware, probably from a single partial vessel, as well as a few sherds of salt-glazed stoneware and coal. The Whieldon ceramics provide a *terminus post quem* of circa 1740.

The coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 0.55' asl. It tapered toward the foot, and was probably hexagonal in shape. Nails were recorded with the extant portion of the coffin, and samples of coffin wood, including a piece of branch that lay above the lid, were collected but not identified by species. The man had been laid out in supine position with his head to the west and his legs extended. Fragments of coal were found during cleaning of the skeletal remains; these may have been intrusive from the privy excavation. No pins or other artifacts, other than the coffin remains, were associated with this burial.

Burial 297 lay to the west of an apparent row of burials stretching north-south across the cemetery, but it was not clearly aligned with any other grave. The areas to the east and north were heavily disturbed, however, and surrounding interments may have been present at one time. Based on its location north of the former boundary fence, Burial 297 has been assigned to the Late Group.





Catalog # 1389 Datum Point: 54

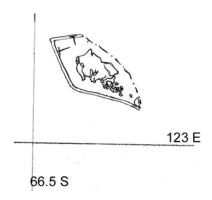
Grid coordinates: S66.5/E123 Elevation of Cranium: 1.99' asl

Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 298 held the partial remains of a child between 8 and 16 months old. A small pit, probably a post hole (designated in the field as Feature 101), had cut through this burial on its northern side and obliterated most of the remains. The only skeletal elements recovered were broken skull fragments and a loose scattering of teeth. The mottled, silty clay of the grave shaft held no cultural material.

The outline of a coffin was reached at an elevation of 2.04' asl. A few nail fragments were recorded, apparently *in situ*, but no other artifacts were noted or collected from this burial. The child's remains were so minimal that burial position could not be discerned.

The ground to the east and south of Burial 298 was pitted with post holes. It is unclear how the burial was related to these stratigraphically. Two Late Group burials, Burial 217, the grave of a man between 17 and 19 years, and Burial 299, the grave of a 40- to 50-year-old man, bracket the child's grave to the north and south. These two adult burials appear to be within a north-south row that spans the excavated area. Burial 298 may have been in place prior to the fence, while the flanking burials appear to post-date the removal of the fence. Burial 298 has been assigned to the Middle Group.





Catalog # 1418 (field notes indicate Cat.# 1480 in error)

Datum Point: 54 (3.94' asl) Grid coordinates: S68.5/E123.5 Elevation of Cranium: 1.32' asl

Temporal Group: Late

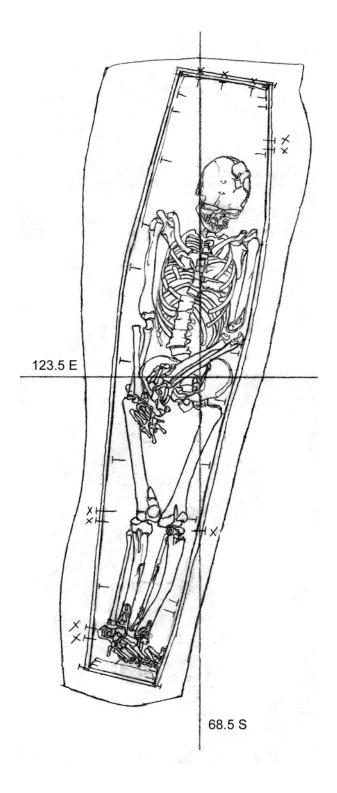
Burial 299 held the remains of a man between 40 and 50 years old. The grave was located along a fence-post alignment marking a fence that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. The soil in the grave shaft was described as brown and tan mottled silty clay with red sandy patches. It contained a small amount of animal bone and shell, a few sherds of stoneware, and one piece of bottle glass.

The hexagonal coffin lid was at an elevation ranging from 0.82' (in the center) to 1.47' (at the west end). The sides of the coffin were also clearly defined, and numerous nails were recorded *in situ*, including at least 10 vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. Several of the nail fragments had bits of wood attached, including one on which the wood appeared to have been burnt. Head and shank portions of very small nails or tacks were also found with this burial, but they had been bagged along with the coffin hardware and it is not possible to determine whether they represent coffin decoration of some kind.

The man was buried in supine position with his head to the west. His right arm was extended with the hand over the right femur, and the left arm was bent about 45 degrees, with the left hand over the right innominate. The skeletal remains were in poor to fair condition, nearly complete but almost all bones broken. Pins with hair were noted at the cranium, adhering to lid wood, but these items apparently were not recovered.

As noted, Burial 299 was located along the projected line of a fence that once crossed the cemetery. Burial 299 had several post holes (Features 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, and 119) immediately adjacent to it. Features 119 (at the head of the burial) and Features 115 and 116 (on the north side) appeared to have been *cut into by the burial*. (There is a also a possibility that Feature 119 (bottom at 1.69° asl), based on its location, may have held a grave post marking Burial 299 rather than a fence post.) Features 115 and 116 (each with a bottom elevation of 1.24° asl) may represent a phase of the fence line, even though they are a bit further south than the property boundary established in 1784. In this case Burial 299 was interred after at least one phase of the fence had come down, since it cut into the post holes. The post holes could not be dated, however: the only artifacts recovered from them were a piece of stoneware from Feature 116 (which excavators thought was from the grave shaft), and an animal bone fragment and two corroded nails from Feature 119.

Burial 299 may have been part of a row of graves stretching from north to south across the excavated site, with Burial 266 at the north end. If so the row spanned the fence alignment. Burial 299 is placed in the Late Group, along with burials to the north of the fence, because, like them, it apparently post-dates the fence's removal.





Series 28 Catalog # 1430

Datum Point: 54 (3.94' asl) Grid coordinates: S76/E125.5 Elevation of cranium: 0.82' asl Temporal Group: Middle

Burial 300 yielded the remains of subadult of undetermined age, though the tiny size of the coffin indicated that the deceased was an infant. The grave fill consisted of mottled clay and contained five sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware as well as one granite cobble.

The coffin, encountered at an elevation of 0.95', appeared oddly shaped, but this may have been due to its slumpage as it decayed; it was probably hexagonal. The bottom was reached at approximately 0.72' asl. Nails were recorded *in situ* around the perimeter at both top and bottom. Only cranial, vertebral, and rib fragments were identifiable once the remains were excavated. Toward the foot of the coffin, three "intrusive" bones were noted; these may have been from Burial 306, which lay beneath Burial 300.

The infant had been laid with the head to the west. A straight pin was recorded *in situ* on the cranium, but was not recovered.

Burial 300 was located directly above Burial 306, which held a man between 28 and 44 years old. Along with Burial 283 and the shared grave containing Burials 268 and 286, these graves appear to form a cluster, which as a whole has been assigned to the Middle Group. It is possible, however, that either or both of the children's graves (Burials 300 and 283) that overlay Burial 306 belong with a later temporal group; there is no way to determine the interval between the lower and upper interments.

